

Message Text

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21

ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PRS-01 INR-05 H-01 L-01 PM-03

SP-02 INRE-00 SSO-00 /036 W
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O R 131220Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6243

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ATHENS 8147

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GR, TU

SUBJECT: EVANS AND NOVAK ARTICLE

REF: STATE 249635

1. REFTTEL HAS BEEN MOST HELPFUL. I SPOKE TO FOREIGN MINISTER BITSIOS THIS MORNING GIVING HIM THE SUBSTANCE OF THAT MESSAGE AND POINTING OUT THAT THE DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN HAD CHARACTERIZED AS "INACCURATE" THE STATEMENTS ATTRIBUTED TO THE SECRETARY IN THE EVANS AND NOVAK ARTICLE.

2. BITSIOS SAID HE WAS VERY SATISFIED WITH MY EXPLANATION AND CLARIFICATION. HE SAID HE WOULD RELAY IT IMMEDIATELY TO PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS.

3. BITSIOS FELT THAT THE WORST MAY HAVE PASSED DURING THE PAST 36 HOURS AND THAT THE DEPARTMENT'S PUBLIC STATEMENT, COUPLED WITH HIS OWN DENIALS HERE MONDAY NIGHT, THAT WERE WIDELY PLAYED IN TUESDAY'S PRESS, WILL PROBABLY MEAN THAT THIS AFFAIR IS JUST ABOUT OVER. WE AGREED TO TAKE A LOOK AT THIS AFTERNOON'S PRESS BUT FOR NOW HAVE CONCLUDED THAT NO FURTHER ACTION OR STATEMENT EITHER IN WASHINGTON OR BY THE EMBASSY HERE IS REQUIRED.

KUBISCH

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Message Attributes

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